

## ANDREWS HARD HIT.

HIS STATEMENTS ON THE STAND DECLARED ABSOLUTELY FALSE.

DOCK COMMISSIONER "ANDY" WHITE AND AUGUST L. LEWIS DENY THEM TO HIS FACE—A TORTURING AFTERNOON FOR ANDREWS—FORCED TO CONFESS HOW HE DROGGED HIS CREDITORS—EX-SENATOR PLUNKITT PAID HIM IN "BILLS," NOT IN CHECKS—THE STORY OF THE OLD PENSIONER BROUGHT OUT WITH DRAMATIC FORCE.

Yesterday's session of the Lexow Committee in Part I of the Superior Court was attended by many persons who expected to witness an interesting scene when William S. Andrews, Tammany's Commissioner of Street Cleaning, should confront John W. Goff, of the committee, who would appear as a witness before the committee and attempt to vindicate himself. He had been demanding an opportunity for vindication ever since he was accused by the witness, Tomlinson, of accepting a bribe of \$500 in connection with the granting of a license for the Hotel Tortoni, at Lexington-avenue and Thirtieth-st., in 1887, when he was acting as Excise Commissioner. The result of the civil action, in which Andrews was plaintiff and Tomlinson was defendant, was a verdict in favor of Andrews, who was not even brought into the case. It was predicted that Mr. Andrews would have an easy time in the witness-chair. Mr. Andrews was one of the first witnesses to appear in the courtroom, and he was dressed as usual in a black suit of fashionable cut, with a wide expanse of spotless shirt-front and a white tie. His face wore a look of untroubled content.

FATHER DUCY ON HAND AS USUAL.

Father Ducey was in his usual seat near the committee when Senator Lexow rapped for order at 11:30 a. m. Mr. Ducey had some preliminary business to attend to before calling upon Mr. Andrews, however, and he at first had Charles Damesaux, bookkeeper for the French Cooks' Association, sworn. Damesaux had brought to the courtroom a small account book, and Mr. Goff asked him about other books belonging to the association which the witness had been ordered to produce. After an explanation, Damesaux was told to go home and bring the rest of the books. Mr. Horner was called, and a chunky German, somewhat past middle age, walked to the table where Mr. Goff sat.

"Where are your books, Mr. Horner?" Mr. Goff asked sharply.

Horner replied only with a shrug, and he was told to take the stand and be sworn. An examination of the subpoena which had been served on him disclosed the fact that some one had omitted to mention the books which he had been expected to produce. He testified that he had been engaged in the real estate business for about two years.

Q—When did you get out of the Austrian bond swindling business? A—I was in no swindling business.

Q—Were you not engaged in dealing in so-called Austrian bonds for nine or ten years? A—That was no swindle.

Q—And in Italian and Royal Hungarian bonds? A—They were European premium bonds.

## HE MAY BRING A TRUCKLOAD OF BOOKS.

The witness said he had an office at No. 88 Wall-st., and had a great many books. He denied that he had destroyed any of the books. He had talked with Detective-Sergeant Heidelberg about being called as a witness before the committee, and he testified that he had been advised by Heidelberg or that he ever had paid any money to the police for protection. He admitted that he was under indictment for grand larceny, and that the German newspapers had accused him of having swindled his countrymen, but he denied that his bond business had been a swindle. Then he was told that he must bring all of his books to the committee in the afternoon. He declared that he would fill more than one truck, but that Mr. Goff said there would be room for them, and Horner went away grumbling.

## DID THE \$5 GO TO SERGEANT LANE?

Josephine Debray, a colored woman, who formerly kept a disorderly house at No. 113 West Twenty-second-st., was called to the witness-chair to testify that she had been arrested in August and had been imprisoned. When she was locked up in the police station, she said she was bailed out by a colored man, Charles Davis, whom she identified in the courtroom. Davis gave an assumed name as bondsman, she declared, with the permission of Sergeant Lane, and she was informed by Davis that \$5 which she had given him had been paid to Lane. She did not see the sergeant receive the money, however. The witness declared that she was induced to plead guilty to the charge of keeping a disorderly house, and that Davis had got possession of the house and had continued to run it.

Mr. Goff then said that while Mr. Andrews was not subpoenaed as a witness, he might have had an opportunity to witness the testimony of Mr. Andrews, and he walked to the witness-stand and affirmed. Senator Lexow warned Mr. Andrews that if he gave testimony before the committee he would have to submit to cross-examination by the committee's counsel, and Mr. Andrews said he understood what his position would be when he became a witness.

Mr. Andrews then sat down, and said with emphasis, "I only wish to place upon the committee my sworn denial of the charge made here by the witness Tomlinson that he had paid me money to influence my action as an Excise Commissioner. It is absolutely false. I have begun an action in the Supreme Court at which Tomlinson will be obliged to appear with other witnesses who will lay bare his motive."

## ANDREWS'S LONG-WINDED DENIAL.

Q (By Senator Lexow)—Do you claim that he had a motive? A—I do; but I prefer to have it set forth under the rules of evidence in the Supreme Court. I deny that Tomlinson ever spoke to me about granting a license for the Hotel Tortoni, as he testified here.

Q—Then he testified falsely? A—Most decidedly! My connection with the license was that of only a member of the Board of Excise. Had one of the other Commissioners objected, the license would not have been granted.

Q—Did the Commissioners inquire personally into the case? A—Yes, a good deal of attention was given to that license because of the extraordinary circumstances. There were a number of other licenses granted by the board, but a number of disorderly places by refusing licenses. A former board was under charges for having licensed saloons in places as the House of the Golden Crenore and the French Macabre. In 1886 the license for the Hotel Tortoni expired, and there was a protest against the renewal of the license. The protest was signed by a number of citizens and there was a hearing ordered. On the day of the hearing, and they would not testify that the place was disorderly. They said all they knew was that Mr. Woodman, who was the president of the Excise Board then, was quite indignant, and said that if citizens would make good their assertions he would vote to grant a license, and the license was renewed. In 1887, when the license was renewed, to expire again, there was a protest from the police, and a renewal of the license was refused. Then Lambert, the bookkeeper, was ordered to do so, and he did not write out the full proceedings. Mr. Goff called the attention of the committee to this state of affairs, and Senator Lexow said that he had no objection to the license being renewed.

Q—It appears from the record, Mr. Andrews, that the only record rendered by the Excise Commissioners on Lewis's application was this memorandum signed by you. Is your memory refreshed? A—No; there was another hearing. I remember the application was fully discussed and granted.

## LEWIS CONTRADICTS HIM ABSOLUTELY.

Mr. Andrews was allowed to go on with his statement at great length, while many of the spectators in the courtroom became drowsy and Senator Lexow went out to get some fresh air. Tomlinson, who was only an inspector, would never have dared to offer him a bribe, Mr. Andrews declared. It was true that Mrs. Tomlinson had been at the office of the Board of Excise while her husband was an inspector there, but she had not made any proposals to the Commissioners.

At length Mr. Andrews ceased his harangue, and Senator O'Connor inquired politely if he had anything more to offer.

"Nothing," said Mr. Andrews, "except that I am

CRASSY PRETENSES.

VENDERS, FIRE SCREENS, ANDIRONS, FIRE SETS.

COAL AND WOOD STANDS.

HEARTH BROOMS, &c., &c.

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willing to submit myself to Mr. Goff's cross-examination.

Mr. Goff asked Mr. Andrews to step aside for the moment, and then recalled August L. Lewis, who had confessed on Monday that he had perjured himself in pretending to be the proprietor of the Hotel Tortoni.

Q—You have ever heard the testimony of Mr. Andrews here? A—No.

Q—Did you ever go before the Excise Board and make the statements which Mr. Andrews said you made? A—No.

Q—Did you ever take a letter from Andrew J. White to the Excise Board? A—No.

Q—When you went to the Excise Board to get the license, whom did you see? A—I saw only a clerk.

Mr. Goff then called Mr. Andrews back to the witness chair and asked him if he wanted to amend his statement. Mr. Andrews said that he did not remember having seen Lewis before, but he remembered that a man who called himself Lewis did appear before the Excise Board and make the statement already referred to.

Q—Do you think there was a counterfeit Lewis? A—There might have been.

## ANDREWS'S CONFUSED STATEMENTS.

Q—Fraud upon fraud! Where were all of your inspectors and other attendants, who could have identified the applicant for a license? A—This man who testified here, although I do not now remember him, might have appeared before the Excise Board, and he may be lying now.

Q—Did Andrew J. White identify him? A—No, sir.

Q—Would it be possible to have such a fraud practiced before the Excise Board as the impersonation of an applicant? A—Possibly. Many false papers may have come before the board, and I discovered some when I was an Excise Commissioner.

Q—Was any attempt made to punish the persons guilty of perjury in these proceedings? A—No, sir. I am not a lawyer, and I am not a judge.

Mr. Goff examined Mr. Andrews at considerable length as to the methods of granting licenses seven years ago, but did not seem to be able to entrap the witness. Then he took up the papers

which had contained the protest of citizens against the granting of a license to Mr. Andrews.

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Griffiths. Were any memoranda of protest written on these cases? They got their license.

Here Mr. Andrews attempted an explanation, but Mr. Goff would not listen. Mr. Andrews said that the Hotel Tortoni was destroyed by fire was a nice quiet family hotel, didn't you? A—Yes, I know respectable people who lived there.

Q—You knew something in favor of the Hotel Tortoni and nothing in favor of the Hotel Tortoni?

Q—You had the same opinion of the notorious St. Omer Hotel, in Sixth-ave. A—Yes, personally I knew nothing against it.

Q—In this memorandum, concerning the Hotel Tortoni, you said that Judge White vouched for Mr. Andrews, and he may be lying now. A—No, sir.

Q—Did Andrew J. White identify him? A—No, sir.

Q—Would it be possible to have such a fraud practiced before the Excise Board as the impersonation of an applicant? A—Possibly. Many false papers may have come before the board, and I discovered some when I was an Excise Commissioner.

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